



Allandale Neighbor

December 2014
Vol 29, Issue 6

DISTRIBUTED TO MORE THAN 4,500 HOMES BY THE ALLANDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Introducing Allandale's Monthly Seminar Series, and First Up: Tree Pruning

Anetta Paver

Ever thought about learning about composting, photography, or starting a rain garden?

How about sharing your astrology, origami or gardening skills and knowledge? Here's your chance!

2015 marks a new year for Allandale with the introduction of our monthly seminar series, free to all ANA members. Annual dues are only \$15 per household (\$7 over age 55 households) and payments can be made at AllandaleNeighbor.com.

We kick off on Saturday, January 24th with Don Gardner's Tree Pruning Workshop from 10:00 a.m. until noon, hosted by Shoal Creek Nursery at 2710 Hancock Drive.

Continued on page 4

Join ANA, please. Please!

Laura Beck

Hi there everyone, I'm Laura Beck, an Allandale neighbor since 2001. I'm fortunate to serve as the editor of our awesome Allandale newsletter and to be able to talk to you via articles six times a year. Last issue, we included a mailing envelope to make it super easy to send in your \$15 (or sometimes only \$7) ANA membership dues for

Continued on page 3

Concern About the Crosswalk at Shoal Creek Boulevard and Treadwell

Laura DiCarlo

Pedestrian and biker safety has been a concern at the intersection of Shoal Creek Boulevard and Treadwell for many years, and a few residents have reached out to the city recently. Parents Laura Dooley and Lauren Shaw thought it

Continued on page 23

Shoal Creek Conservancy Works to Improve Allandale

Hannah Peacock, Communications Intern,
and Joanna Wolaver, Executive Director,
Shoal Creek Conservancy

The Shoal Creek waterway is an integral part of Allandale's landscape. Nestled in the heart of Allandale, the creek stretches the entire length of the neighborhood from

Continued on page 22

Table of Contents:

President's Letter	2
Introducing Your New ANA	
Executive Committee!	5
The New Taco Flats on Burnet Road	7
Allandale Eating – Additional Food Notes	9
Allandale Neighborhood Association Logo Contest	9
Neighbor Spotlight: Laura DiCarlo, Hardest Working Woman in Allandale!	10
Bug Off! Fruit Flies.	11
Dog Talk: Drama at the Door!	12
Allandale Outside – Winter Gardening.	14
Gullett Good News!	15
All About Lamar!	16
It's Knight Time – McCallum Updates.	17
Neighborhood Watch	18
Déjà Vu.	21

Renew Your Membership Today! Annual membership dues are still just \$7–\$15 per household. Every membership renewal we receive by the end of December means one less stamp we have to purchase. Please send in your dues today!

The Allandale Neighbor
is published bimonthly by the
Allandale Neighborhood Association (ANA)

www.allandaleneighbor.com

EDITOR Laura Beck
ADVERTISING Cathy Savage, 348-8237
allandaleneighbor@gmail.com
LAYOUT, DESIGN Cathy Savage
PRINTER Worley Printing

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
ADVERTISERS AND CONTRIBUTING
WRITERS

CONTACT INFORMATION
Allandale Neighbor,
PO Box 10886, Austin, TX 78766-1886
allandaleneighbor@gmail.com

ANA Executive Committee

PRESIDENT Kata Carbone
VICE PRESIDENT Marshall Thompson
TREASURER Elliot Brubaker
SECRETARY Jennifer Paris
BOARD MEMBERS Laura Beck, Steve Neel,
Michael Nink, Anetta Paver,
Caroline Reynolds, Nathan
Vassar

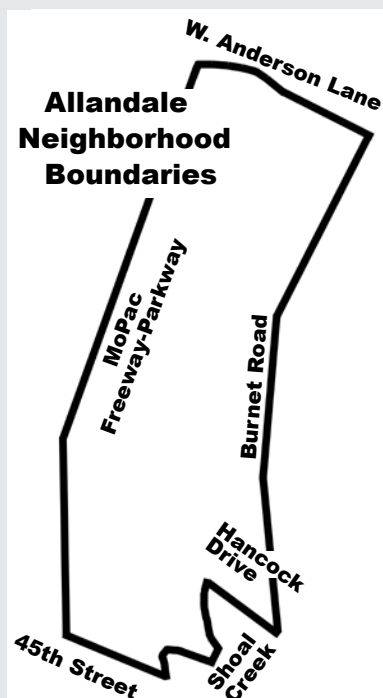
ANA General Meetings are held March and September on the first Wednesday of the month at NW Rec Center.

Committees

BYLAWS Marshall Thompson
COMMUNICATIONS Laura Beck
FINANCE Elliot Brubaker
MEMBERSHIP Anetta Paver
NOMINATING Michael Nink
SAFETY Laura DiCarlo
ZONING & PLANNING Nathan Vassar
ANC REP David Orshalick

Allandale Police District Rep.

APD Region 1 District Rep (serves Allandale north of Hancock): Ofc. Jud Chapman, 974-4705, judson.chapman@austintexas.gov
APD Region 2 District Rep (serves Allandale south of Hancock): Ofc. Josh Metteauer, 974-8124, joshua.metteauer@austintexas.gov



President's Letter

Kata Carbone

ANA Executive Committee (EC) members meet once a month to discuss items of concern to residents such as how to improve crosswalk safety and how to respond to official notices from the City of Austin such as the proposed bicycle lanes on Northcross Drive. It's not possible to address all the issues facing Allandale in a two-hour meeting. That's where ANA's seven standing committees and three ad hoc committees come in—and they keep committee members busy. Here are just a few examples.

ANA's Zoning committee team, led by Nathan Vassar, works on everything from fielding homeowners' questions about building set-back lines to representing Allandale in zoning cases that threaten to diminish the quality of our neighborhood. At our December meeting, Nathan presented an overview of recent modifications to the proposed Austin Oaks Planned Unit Development on Spicewood Springs Road. (Notes and documents related to Austin Oaks are available on ANA's website, www.allandaleneighbor.com.)

Allan McMurtry leads ANA's Land Development Code committee that monitors Austin's CodeNEXT process and assesses proposed changes to Austin's code, such as the city's current push to amend regulations related to accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Allan submitted a resolution opposing the authorization of ADUs in single family neighborhoods, citing a breach of our deed restrictions and the city's failure to provide affordable housing. The EC concurred and passed the resolution.

Laura DiCarlo raises the bar as head of ANA's Safety committee. She monitors

crime in the neighborhood and alerts residents to anything of concern, trains Neighborhood Watch block captains, attends commander's forums and all manner of meetings to solve problems related to safety, communicates closely with law enforcement personnel, can be seen eradicating graffiti all over Allandale, and is about to provide CPR training. Read Laura's articles in every newsletter and you'll understand how deeply committed she is to our safety and security.

Another dynamo is Laura Beck, who leads ANA's Communication committee. As editor of this newsletter, Laura is tasked with many difficult jobs, such as herding cats— that is, rounding up articles to meet publication deadlines. Laura is also a fine writer, providing thoughtful and informative columns that spotlight neighborhood people, restaurants, and services. Between Allandale's newsletter, website, list-serv, and Facebook page, the Communication committee's "write once, publish many" concept ensures there is an information venue for everyone.

Michael Nink chairs ANA's Nominating committee. While it's too early yet to prepare for next year's EC election, Mike and fellow EC member Steve Neel are on the lookout for three non-EC members to complete this committee. By summertime, the committee should be fully populated and ready to evaluate a slate of nominees to present at next September's general membership meeting.

We can always use more help. If you're interested in serving on any committee, contact me (512-454-6571, allandale.neighborhood@gmail.com) or any of the ANA EC members or committee chairs to volunteer.

Meanwhile, have a safe and happy holiday! ❖

The *Allandale Neighbor* is published and distributed bimonthly by the ANA. Contact our ad coordinator at 512-348-8237 or allandaleneighbor@gmail.com for more information.

Your Ad	Size	One time rate
Full Page	7½ x 9¾"	\$320
1/2 Page	7½ x 5	\$225
1/4 Page	3½ x 4½	\$116
Business Card	3½ x 2	\$72

We prefer digital files, at least 300 pixels (TIFF or PDF best). We can create or alter your ad for a nominal charge. For an additional \$60 we will create an online ad to place on the Allandale web site: www.allandaleneighbor.com.

* a 10% discount is offered on three or more ads.

Join ANA, please. Please!

Continued from front page

2015. Unfortunately, of 4800 homes, we've received only about 100 responses. Not even 10%. Not even 5%. This makes me so very sad. Seriously sad.

In the last issue, our ANA president, Kata Carbone, wrote an article about joining ANA, and why you should, what ANA does and brings. And we included a mailing envelope. And both included easy instructions for paying your membership online too—one click on the paypal link on the front page of our website, <http://www.allandaleighbor.com/>. Yet, again, only 100 households responded. Sad. Very sad.

We have an amazing neighborhood. When we bought our home here in 2001, I knew it was our forever home. This is where we wanted to be to raise our family, from babies through high school. We are smack in the middle of that story now and have never loved Allandale more.

I will be honest, there are years I didn't pay our \$15, there are years I forgot. Surely, it's a nominal amount, and it's easy to forget it should be renewed each

calendar year. Especially because no one is reminding you, or withholding something if you don't pay. Even if you don't pay ANA a dime ever, you still get the newsletter six times a year, delivered to your doorstep. You still enjoy the Fourth of July parade. You still get valuable information and stay aware of what's going on in the hood from the website, the Facebook page.

You still have the ANA EC working tirelessly on your behalf, volunteering their time, to represent you in really sticky and serious situations like keeping down the MoPac Sound Walls, Walmart, the Bull Creek land sale, the Spicewood PUD, and safety, robberies and graffiti. And all the major development and growth happening in Allandale that is shaking up what we've always known and shaping our future—whether McMan-sions, or split lots, or flag lots or issues with zoning, sub divisions, set backs and deed restrictions. This is serious stuff, and a small set of your neighbors give up countless hours each year, through the goodness of their hearts, to represent your best interests in these, and so many other issues.

And you don't have to pay a dime for it. But you should.

*You really should.
Please do. Please.*

We are talking \$7 for many households, \$15 for others. A pittance. As a small token of your appreciation for the hard work of the neighbors who volunteer their time, or your recognition of what a great community we are fortunate enough to live within, please support us!

Have you checked out other neighborhoods? And their newsletters (or lack thereof), their websites (or lack thereof), their community spirit?

Most pale in comparison to what we have. Those that do have impressive assets likely have much higher association dues (that are required, not optional) and much more powerful neighborhood associations. Ours, admittedly, is a step-sister, doing things on a shoestring. We'll never be big time. And we really don't want to be. But imagine what we could do if we had a bit more than the 10% participation in ANA membership dues that is our reality today. That's about \$500 a year

Continued on page 4



ALLANDALE SPECIALIST

JASON HEFFRON *and Resident*
Owner/Broker

jason@juicehomes.com

512.658.8822

ALLANDALE AREA 2014 YTD PROPERTY SALES IN REVIEW

	2013	2014
TOTAL TRANSACTIONS	43	41
AVG LIST PRICE	\$423,905	\$469,204
AVG SALES PRICE	\$422,714	\$466,896
AVG DAYS ON MARKET	19 DAYS	28 DAYS
AVG SIZE HOME	1922 SQ FT	1916 SQ FT

All statistics & square footage are from Austin MLS for single family residence as of June 30, 2014. For detailed market information about your home contact Jason Heffron, Broker.



JUICEHOMES.COM

ryan, native
shortcut, \$24

iBirds BARBERSHOP
austin

s. lamar burnet s. congress e. 6th 41st/red river slaughter

photo by allison narro

Henderson Plumbing
452-5963

- Licensed plumbing repair
- Clean, personal service
- 29 years experience
- Drain cleaning

452-5963
Leave message

Join ANA, please. Please!

Continued from page 3

budget for all the things we want and need our neighborhood association to do for us. \$500 a year. Are you kidding me? To grapple with the issues I referenced above? BIG HAIRY COMPLEX issues? \$500 a year? I'm all for being the scrappy step-sister of Austin neighborhoods, but holy cow would I like to have some shoes in 2015, maybe even a coat.

Could you please help a sister out, and be a more active part of this amazing neighborhood we all love? It's Easy! Simply pay your ANA dues today, and encourage your neighbors to do the same. One click at <http://www.allandaleneighbor.com/>. Please? Thank you for your consideration.

And to the 500 homes that do pay ANA membership dues in good faith every year, you have no idea how much your support means. Thank YOU! We hope you will soon not be such a minority! ❖

Introducing Allandale's Monthly Seminar Series, and First Up: Tree Pruning

Continued from front page

Come meet your neighbors while learning to properly trim your trees and shrubs.

Share your Talents!

To lead a workshop and share your skills, send your contact info and talents to Anetta Paver at ahpaver@gmail.com. ❖

JOIN ANA

Tree Pruning Questions?

Who do you trust with the answers?

**Allandale's 5th Annual
Tree Pruning
Workshop
10 a.m. – Noon
Saturday, January 24
Shoal Creek Nursery
2710 Hancock Drive**

Consulting Arborist Don Gardner will discuss pruning principles, tools, and techniques to give young trees a strong structure, and will demonstrate pruning basics. Don is one of only five Registered Consulting Arborists in the state. He was the official arborist of the Texas Governor's mansion for 27 years, and hosts Gardening Naturally's "Tree Talk" segment on KLBJ-AM. Learning proper tree care will ensure a long life for your trees—a must if you are a do-it-yourselfer. Sponsored by Allandale Neighborhood Association. Free to ANA members. Others \$5.



We know Allandale



Call today for a Comparative Market Analysis!

Mason Quintana
REALTOR GRI &
Gullett Dad
(512) 740-8008

Visit **787-Realty.com** to search Allandale and surrounding areas.

Introducing Your New ANA Executive Committee!

Laura Beck

In October, we introduced you to three new members of the ANA Executive Committee: Michael Nink, Jennifer Paris and Anetta Paver. This issue, we'd like you to meet Elliot Brubaker and Marshall Thompson. These five new additions to the ANA EC join us "old timers," Kata Carbone (our fearless leader at president), Steve Neel, Caroline Reynolds, Nathan Vassar and me, Laura Beck.

Elliot Brubaker, Treasurer



I have 15 years of experience in corporate financial planning & analysis, and currently work for Consero leading new client implementations onto their finance

& accounting platform. My family moved around the country when I was a young child, but we settled in Austin in 1987 so I'm proud to call Austin home. After graduating from UT, I spent 10 years in Dallas where I met my lovely wife and many great friends. We moved back to Austin in 2010 and quickly identified Allandale as the perfect little neighborhood for our family.

What I love best about Allandale: the active and diverse community, beautiful old trees, and proximity to local businesses and restaurants . . . and we don't have to use MoPac! Allandale represents the perfect blend of beauty, unique people and families, walkability/bikeability, access to downtown or northern suburbs, and convenience. We talk about how perfect that choice was daily!

Marshall Thompson, Vice-President

I'm a family lawyer practicing in Northwest Hills—just beyond the boundaries of Allandale. I previously worked as a staff attorney for Texas RioGrande Legal Aid representing victims of domestic vio-

lence throughout central and south Texas. I grew up in Corpus Christi, went to the University of Texas (undergraduate and then law school), and have refused to leave Austin ever since. I married my high school sweetheart, Allison, in 2009 and moved to Allandale the following year. We bought our home from the original owners and hope to pass it on to a new family in another fifty years or so!

What I love best about Allandale: When the weather is nice, my commute to work involves a bike ride down Shoal Creek.

My favorite time of year in Allandale is the fall: Halloween, college football, and backyard barbecues. ❖



416
BAR & GRILLE

COMING
SOON

AMERICANA CUISINE IN THE HEART OF AUSTIN
FAMILY OWNED NEIGHBORHOOD

BAR & GRILL

PLENTY OF PARKING

5011 Burnet Road, #150

Austin, TX 78756 | www.416barandgrille.com | 512-230-8222



Storage - Boat & RV Storage - Packing Supplies

KATHY L. HALL
Manager

6400 Burnet Road info@burnet-road-storage.com ph: 512.453.6302
Austin, Texas 78757 www.burnet-road-storage.com fax: 512.453.2936

realty/austin
make the move.™

i know allandale

I live here. I work here. I run here. I love to participate in our wonderful neighborhood.

Contact me to find out about your neighborhood credit!

Call **Ruth E. Powers** to get the true value of your home for a quick and efficient sale.



Ruth E. Powers
REALTOR®, ABR, MBA
512.964.3434
ruth@realtyaustin.com



www.RuthEPowers.com



5310 Burnet Rd – Next to Dollar Tree
www.AustinCapitolBingo.com

Allandale's Daytime Bingo Hall

Mon-Fri – Doors Open 10:00am
Games @ 12:00 & 1:30

Sat – Doors Open 9:30am
Games @ 11:30 & 1:00 & 2:30

Sun – Doors Open 12:00 noon
Games @ 2:00 & 3:30

*Saturday October 18th
\$ 15,000 Cash Prizes
Free Fajita Taco Lunch*

*Saturday November 22nd
\$ 15,000 Cash Prizes
Free Fajita Taco Lunch*

Last year we gave away \$ 2.2 Million in Prizes!!

Manor Volunteer Fire Department • Heart of the Rock Civilian Club. INC
Holy Cross Catholic Church • Knights of Columbus #5967 • Human Potential Center

Austin Home Sales Statistics

2,835—Homes sold, 4% less than 2013
\$247,500 – Median price , 11% more than 2013
\$311,414—Average price, 9% more than 2013
42—Average days spent on the market, one day fewer than 2013
6,707—Active listings on the market, 10% more than 2013
\$882,858,690—Total sold volume, 4% more than 2013



512.657.5264
www.EEllisGroup.com

Evie Ellis, GRI
Keller Williams
Realty



For FREE access to all
Homes in the MLS
Download my mobile app:
<http://app.kw.com/KWDVPJ5>

The New Taco Flats on Burnet Road

Tom Linehan

They don't make tacos like they used to, and that's a good thing, at least when it comes to tacos from the new Taco Flats at 5520 Burnet Road. I love this place, and any comparison of the food to the old Taco Flats that operated back in the late 70s would be unkind.

Back then, people didn't go to Taco Flats on North Lamar next to the Buck Moore Feed store for the tacos, or maybe they did because they didn't have much money and the tacos were cheap (Hobo plate for 99 cents). They most likely went because it was a good place to drink beer, listen to music and hang out.

"Over 2,000 tacos returned," is a common recollection of a sign that hung in the old Taco Flats; a dig at McDonald's, but not something you will likely find in the new Taco Flats where it's obvious they are serious about their menu. The tacos at the new incarnation are unique and delicious yet maintain a traditional quality (food for the soul for those that know their tacos).

"Another taco place on Burnet Road?" you ask. From 45th Street to Greenlawn Parkway along Burnet Road, there is Taco Shack, the recently opened Fork and Taco, Torchy's Taco, Taqueria Guadalajara Arandas, Taco Deli, and now Taco Flats. It is enough to give Burnet Road the nickname Taco Row.

Well, I have tried them all and I welcome the new Taco Flats. The bar/restaurant opened just across from Karavel Shoes in mid-October. My wife and I have eaten there three times, each time trying something different—and we like it all! The menu not only includes core traditional tacos you would expect to find in a taco place—which are done very well—but also includes a choice of tacos that appeal to a more contemporary palate. In addition to homemade corn and flour tortillas you can also order jicama tortillas. I'd say it is a balanced menu: traditional and non-traditional, meat-lovers and vegetarians—Carne Asada tacos and the El Hippie vegetarian tacos.

I love Pozole (a Mexican stew with hominy, pork, chile and seasonings) and

they serve up a deliciously hardy red Pozole. I also highly recommend the Al Pastor taco (spit roasted pork, onion, cilantro, and pineapple). We have not tried the Carne Asada taco (grilled beef fajita, onion, cilantro, and grilled jalapeno) but it is one of their signature tacos. The Papas, a side dish served with ketchup and an aioli dip, are simple hand cut fries that are hard to leave alone. Instead of nachos, they have panchos, a more deliberate approach to the nacho where each chip has its own portion of refried black beans, cheese, escabeche, guacamole, and pico de gallo.

The owner of Taco Flats is Simon Madera who was inspired by stories of the old Taco Flats and collaborated with his mom and chef, Esther, on the menu. They are from the Valley, specifically McAllen, where folks know something about good Mexican food. Simon, a St. Edward's graduate, is the former owner of the nearby Triangle Wine and Spirits. It was while working at the Triangle that he came to learn about and fall in love with North Central Austin. Prior to settling in Austin, he operated a catering business with his mother in the Valley. It is easy to detect his passion for this venture. You will likely find him working the floor, visiting with patrons, and quick to talk extensively about the food and carefully concocted cocktail menu.

Taco Flats took over part of the building that was formerly Austin Plumbing Supply. Next door is the just-opened Peached Tortilla. Simon had his eye on



Esther and Simon



The old Taco Flats on North Lamar

this stretch of Burnet Road for some time and jumped at the opportunity when the space became available. Unlike the old Taco Flats where you mostly ate, drank and listened to music on picnic tables out back, Simon has created a casual interior with long wooden shared tables, a horseshoe bar, a line of small tables and chairs along the walls, TV screens placed for easy viewing from anywhere, and iron and wood accents on the walls that give it a warmth. Like the old Taco Flats, there is a comfort factor that makes you want to hang out, eat, and drink. Unlike the old Taco Flats, which the City shut down in 1981 for violating its zoning designation as a cafe (sold more beer than tacos), the tacos will be top-of-mind when you go. There are many taco options up and down Burnet Road. Try this one. Parking is in back but because you live in Allandale you can walk or ride your bike to it.

Taco Flats, 5520 Burnet Road, open daily 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. Closed Tuesdays. Brunch served 11:00 – 3:00 on weekends. www.tacoflats.com ❖

NEW TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD



NOW OPEN ON ANDERSON LANE

2525 W Anderson Ln, Bldg 1, Ste 350
Austin, Texas 78757
(512) 276-2481



OTHER LOCATIONS

WESTGATE

4477 S Lamar Blvd, Ste 410
(512) 388-9300

BEE CAVES

3300 Bee Caves Rd, Ste 100
(512) 306-0900

**massage
harmony**
professional massage | relaxing price

Book your massage and order gift certificates at massageharmony.com
No membership required • Locally owned and operated

\$10.00 OFF

YOUR NEXT MASSAGE

expires December 31, 2014

\$10.00 OFF

YOUR NEXT MASSAGE

expires January 31, 2015

\$10.00 OFF

YOUR NEXT MASSAGE

expires February 28, 2015

Allandale Eating – Additional Food Notes

Laura Beck

I also tried Taco Flats, a rare grown up night out, my husband and I with another couple, and it was awesome. So excited to have it in the hood. Great food, good drinks, and an excellent set up, as Tom says, comfortable, great for hanging out. In particular, I want to point out the jicama tortillas – truly unique and delish! GO! (but definitely more an adult place than for kiddos/families)

And it seems we are in a state of Forks and Tacos, eh? Tom also mentions Fork and Taco, also on Burnet, which is also good, counter order, casual, delish. This is family friendly and my girls are big fans of the kids quesadillas. Fork & Vine just opened at Anderson Lane and Shoal Creek and is also more an adult place, a bit more grown up menu and wine aplenty. It has a fantastic back patio that will be packed on nice evenings.

Outside of Forks and Tacos, wanted to give you three other updates as well:

Peachd Tortilla, featured in our April issue, is now open on Burnet, right next to Taco Flats. Marketing Director Hope Furst let me know hours are 5:00 p.m. – 10:00

p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday, and 5:00 – 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. She wanted me to pass on that they have some great happy hour specials until 6:30 p.m. each day, too. SOLD!

We have to wait a bit longer for the 416 Bar & Grille, also featured recently, in the October issue. Owner John Jurey let me know construction is nearing completion but they cannot nail down an opening date quite yet.

Finally, Little Woodrow's is open and booming. Laura DiCarlo's safety article later in this issue will mention more, but a personal tip: be careful where you park! Two friends and I caught a beer there after working out one Friday afternoon, and parked next door in Next to New, thinking that was OK and approved for overflow parking. It is NOT, and my friend was towed. ARGH! There are signs, apparently, in Woodrows, and in the Next to New Lot, but they are small and overlooked. There is supposed to be overflow parking at Halina Day Spa but that is legally restricted to pizza parlor customers (Brooklyn Pie), not Woodrows patrons. And, rightly, the streets around Burnet are moving to resident permit parking only. So, I recommend we bike or walk to Woodrow's or anywhere on Burnet to keep cars off the road, and off the tow trucks! ❖

Allandale Neighborhood Association Logo Contest

Anetta Paver

That's right! We are updating our neighborhood logo, and invite Allandale residents to submit their designs.

Logo Specifications: All entries must pertain to an "oak tree" theme, with a limit of 2 colors per design.

File Format: 300 x 300 pixel JPG's (winner will be asked to send a larger high-resolution image).

Submissions: Email to Anetta Paver at ahpaver@gmail.com

Deadline: February 1st, 2015.

Prize: Recognition in the ANA newsletter, a one-year membership to ANA, and bragging rights.

Logo Usage: The Logo will be unveiled on March 4, 2015 at ANA's general membership meeting, will be used in the ANA newsletter and for other neighborhood branding, such as banners, signs, and t-shirts.

Join ANA today!

www.TCPHouses.com

We're your
Allandale neighbor.

**TCP
Real Estate**

512-356-9393

TCP Real Estate, Inc

One Happy Customer at a Time
(512) 844 - 5552
info@duhonelectric.com
Bonded and Insured
Master Electrician License # TECL 26523

**DUHON
ELECTRIC**

www.duhonelectric.com
Serving Austin with quality electrical work for 15 years.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!
Redeemer Choir/Orchestra presents
"YOU WILL FIND A BABY"

Saturday, December 13 5:30PM
Sunday, December 14 8AM, 9:30AM, 10:45AM

Christmas Eve Services:
3PM, 5PM and 11PM

1500 West Anderson Lane • 459-1500 • Redeemer.net

Neighbor Spotlight: Laura DiCarlo, Hardest Working Woman in Allandale!

Laura Beck

She doesn't know this spotlight is coming and that's on purpose, because she probably wouldn't allow it, would encourage us to focus on someone else. But as we just enjoyed Thanksgiving and are in the season of giving overall, it is high time this neighborhood put the spotlight on Laura DiCarlo, and all she does for Allandale, and beyond.

Laura "graduated" from Gullett when the last of her three boys moved on to middle school last Spring and we miss her still, daily. She led the charge to make that campus as green as it could be—literally green with so much grounds work, and gardens planted, and outdoor improvements. And green in terms of environmentally friendly. As a Gullett parent, I know I'm not alone when I say my children, as early as four years old, scold me, and teach me what goes where, and what can be recycled, etc. That's just for paper and food. In large part through

Laura's leadership, Gullett also helps us all recycle Styrofoam, batteries, old cell phones and printer cartridges, etc. Anyone can come drop off, not just Gullett families. Right outside the front office doors. We've done electronic recycling days, and long before aluminum foil was allowed in our mixed use recycling bins, Laura helped us recycle that too.

So Gullett is green AND green thanks to Laura, and we fortunately still see her around our grounds helping and contributing, again with no children students at the school. Wow. It warms my heart to see her, whether in her Gecko costume or not.

In the neighborhood, Laura pretty much established our neighborhood watch efforts and block captains and all we do around Neighbor Night Out. She is our representative and liaison to the Austin police. She has a pulse on any and all crime happening in the neighborhood

or even the businesses around us. She also personally does graffiti mitigation. Out there painting over graffiti, personally, and hands on, as well as reporting it, and working to prevent it.

She is one of the kindest, most sincere, pure of heart people I've ever met, and she makes everyone be their best self, just by being around her and trying to live up, just a little bit, to the example she sets. Oh, and somehow, she survives as the only woman among four men in her house. I have Laura DiCarlo to "blame" for my involvement on the ANA EC because she asked me to volunteer my time. And when Laura DiCarlo asks you to do a little, it's awfully hard to say no, since she does so much. In this season of giving, and on behalf of all your neighbors and friends, Laura, we THANK YOU. We appreciate all you do and are thankful to have you in our lives. ❖

David Starry, Realtor



Oct. – Nov. Allandale Home Sales

Average Sold Price: \$464,288.00

Average Price / Square Foot: \$243.61

Maximize Value and Sell Fast – Guaranteed!

Direct Line 512-423-4000

David@RealVisionProperties.com



bright beginnings CHILDREN'S CLOTHING



**Shop our
Great Selection!**

2925 W. ANDERSON LN.
LOCATED IN THE
HILLSIDE SHOPPING CENTER
512.454.5437
MON - SAT 10AM-6PM

RYLIE
Our Special
Customer!

Style MADE Easy
Easy care, easy wear...

Bug Off! Fruit Flies

Wizzie Brown



Fruit flies can become a problem at any time of year because they are attracted to ripe or fermenting fruit. Fruit flies can be brought into the home from ripe fruits or vegetables picked from the garden or items purchased at the grocery store.

Adults are small (about 1/8 of an inch) and usually have red eyes. The front portion of the body is tan while the back portion is dark brown or black. If given the opportunity, females can lay up to 500 eggs. Larvae feed near the surface of fermenting foods or other organic matter.

Prevention is the best way to deal with fruit flies. Do not purchase over ripened

fruit or vegetables. Fruit and vegetables should be eaten in a timely manner or stored in the refrigerator. If storage in the refrigerator is not an option because you are ripening the item, place it in a paper bag and use a clothespin or chip clip to close the bag. All recyclables should be rinsed thoroughly before placing them into the recycling bin. The recycling bin and garbage can should be cleaned out on a regular basis to eliminate any spilled material.

To eliminate a fruit fly infestation, all sources must be located and eliminated. Insecticides will not help if sources are not eliminated. While searching and eliminating breeding sources, a trap can be constructed to capture adult flies. Create a paper funnel by rolling notebook paper and place the funnel into a jar that contains a small amount of apple cider vinegar in the bottom.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512-854-9600. ❖

Subscribe to Allandale's Yahoo! mailing list

We need to keep neighbors in contact with one another.

Send an email to



allandale-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com

**to request membership.
Simply follow the instructions when you receive your confirmation email.**

TEXAS DPS CREDIT UNION

Dependable Personal Service

You Can Join!

Texas DPS Credit Union is a member-owned, full financial institution open to all Allandale residents who wish to join!

621 West St. Johns Ave.
512-452-5211 | www.txdpincu.org

Get Connected:

make the move in 2013

Chad Proctor, REALTOR® and Allandale Resident

Austin's Hottest Real Estate Company!

Let me show you what all the buzz is about with no obligation. For a free Market Analysis on your Allandale Home or to receive free email updates of all Allandale listings as they hit the market, call 512.870.7292 or email chadproctor@realtyaustin.com today!

Visit all Allandale area listings online at **AllandaleLiving.com**

Chad Proctor
REALTOR®
chadproctor@realtyaustin.com
512.870.7292



Dog Talk: Drama at the Door!

Cheryl Silver csilver2@austin.rr.com, 512-454-7219

In so many ways, doorways are problem zones for people and their dogs.

Some untrained, unrestrained dogs will jump all over everyone coming through the door—not a good situation when a dog can knock over a person who is unsteady on their feet, regardless of age. Painful but unintentional scratches can occur and traumatize people who are apprehensive around dogs already or even create medical issues for folks whose skin is compromised, like diabetics. This over-exuberant type of response is often triggered by the ringing of the doorbell or someone knocking on the door.

Other untrained and unrestrained dogs bolt out the front door to go on a “walk-about,” thereby putting themselves at risk, or they may go after another animal that they can see from inside the house.

This article will offer a brief discussion of how to address these two issues.

Ideally each of us would have perfectly trained dogs who are “bomb-proof”—dogs you can count on to behave in a desirable and predictable manner regardless of the situation/distractions. The

truth is, however, that is not something most dog guardians can count on.

With regards to the jumping, let's start by making the front door and doorbell less exciting; in fact, let's make them downright boring! Basically, we will set up a situation where there are many, many events at the front door that happen one right after the other. During the events, one person (or multiple folks) will repeatedly knock on the door/ring the bell and another person will control the dog inside while guiding it into a “sit” (probably on leash) or by directing it behind a nearby baby gated area or into a crate. In any instance you will be rewarding the dog for desired behavior with very yummy treats. Be gen-



erous with those treats. Promptly repeat numerous times. The dog should become less stimulated by the sound and become focussed on the treats so that the jumping is eventually extinguished. Practice this daily for awhile until the dog automatically goes into a sit when someone knocks on the door. This may feel awkward for awhile; don't give up. What you are doing in this process is creating a chain of behaviors that the dog recognizes as one that ends up with him receiving a pay-off. Eventually you will be able to end the intensive treating of the dog and he will



St. Louis Catholic School

2114 St. Joseph Blvd. Austin, Texas 78757
slcsaustin.org or call 512-614-6622 x245 Mrs. Dowling

A diverse community with 39 zip codes represented, with a dedicated administration, faculty, staff and supportive parents. We provide a rigorous, Christ-centered curriculum that inspires academic excellence and fosters creativity.

Join us for Open House!
Sunday, January 25, 10am-1pm

Pre-K4-8th grade

Look us up!

Facebook.com/slcsaustin



AUSTIN TELCO
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
512-302-5555 | 800-252-1310 | www.atfcu.org



Home Equity Loans

as low as

2.99% APR¹

5 Years Fixed

Join Online Today!

¹Annual Percentage Rate. Actual rate may vary depending on credit qualifications. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Federally Insured by NCUA. Austin Telco NMLS# 422857



receive his pay-off in the form of praise and petting.

Oh—be sure and tell the person who comes in to give the dog very little attention; the last thing you want them to do is to work up the dog with an effusive greeting.

And practice the “sit” command many times a day so the dog defaults into that position—it is a very polite position and relaxes visitors.

It is critical that all family members buy into these strategies—consistency is key. If you have very young children you need to fortify the controls of your environment. This can include a latch on the front door that they cannot reach, arranging that entrances and exits from the house go through the most manageable door, practice with them putting the dog behind the baby gate or having them call

for assistance before rushing out the door themselves and risking an escape.

I am sharing with you some pix of an arrangement we have made outside our front door. It is incredibly helpful for a number of reasons. We have had it for at least 7 years and the rule in our house is that whenever anyone comes through the gate, they close it before we open the front door. For Halloween or other special situations, I put a carabiner through the latch to lock it so we can hang out in the encircled area without risk of anyone opening the gate.

I realize this can sound complicated. I am happy to try and make arrangements to come to your home to practice this with you and/or work out a management strategy. And, of course, you are welcome to come to my house to see the front porch arrangement we have. ❖

to pay your dues,
to volunteer, to
attend meetings, to
get involved.

**WE
NEED
YOU!**

ANA Executive Committee Meetings

Held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.
& are open to the public

Northwest Recreation Center | 2913 Northland Drive



Sibyl Dyke

CRS®, CLHMS®, ABR®, SRES®

Broker Associate

512-689-4083

sibyl@sibyl.dyke.com

Your Allandale Neighbor

It's a good time to sell - Prices are high.

It's a good time to buy - Interest rates are low.

I represent both sellers and buyers. Call me to discuss your real estate needs.

Let me put my experience to work for you!



Selling Austin Homes for 35 years

www.sibyl.dyke.com

www.CovertIngersollProperties.com

Freeman Tree Service

ISA Certified Arborist TX-3747A



512 371-0438

- * Tree Trimming
- * Tree Removal
- * Stump Removal
- * Roof Clearing
- * Tree Fertilization
- * Cabling
- * Insured

Insured * Over 20 years Experience

www.freemantree.com

Allandale Outside – Winter Gardening

Robin Pearson

My dad used to say that he loved Texas because you could get a tennis racket for Christmas and go out and use it. Change out the tennis racket for a shovel and you can apply Dad's claim to gardening. Winter months offer the best opportunity to change the look of your gardens or expand them in preparation for the coming spring when you are finally going to feed your family entirely on home-grown, heirloom vegetables that they will enjoy—even the beets—because they can taste your love in every bite.

In December most plants can be transplanted safely, and you can plan out new gardens and begin preparing the ground for them. There are numerous planning guides online that will help you select plant varieties, determine spacing, and so on. If you are not much of a planner, you can go ahead and move that giant plant that smacks you in the face when you venture out at night. Lesson learned: “Butterfly Weed” and “Butterfly Bush” are not the same.

Mulch your gardens and protect them from the cold with all those leaves in your yard. Before an expected freeze, water well and mulch (if you haven't already). If you use a blanket or old sheet to protect plants, uncover the plants as soon as it warms up. The cloth absorbs moisture and blocks circulation. Commercial lightweight frost protectors are more effective and better for your plants, though more expensive. You could also bring potted plants inside during freezes. Lesson learned: Dogs often urine-mark things newly introduced into the house.

You can still plant wildflowers in December during all that free time that accumulates around the holidays (HA). Though prevailing local wisdom (that lady I met while buying seeds) dictates planting before Thanksgiving, many favorite wildflowers, including Bluebonnets, Larkspur and Gaillardia (blanket flower) do well if planted as recommended by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Alternately, you could use my GTH (Grab, Throw, Hope) Method: buy a huge bag of mixed seeds and hurl fistfuls of them at the bare spots in your garden. Lessons learned: You might want to

keep your chickens in the coop while using GTH, unless you can move really fast. Also, come spring, don't pull any weeds you can't identify, because what are wildflowers except weeds with good hair?

You can plant certain bulbs all winter. Personally, only a few of the more showy bloomers that I have planted (daffodils, tulips, narcissus, and hyacinths) have sprouted, and none survived in my draught tolerant perennial garden. Central Texas Gardener recommends all of these, plus the Dutch Iris, which I dislike. Lesson learned: Running over Dutch Iris with a lawn mower for 10 years only makes them stronger.

The Travis County Master Gardeners Association recommends some alliums, grasses and lilies for winter planting. Some examples are Monkey Grass, Rain and Aztec Lilies and Liriope. I let some of my elephant garlic (allium family) bloom just because the flowers remind me of Truffula Trees.

Plant bare root or container-grown fruit trees, grapes and berries. Do not expect much fruit for a while, however, as they can take a year or more to really bear. Lesson learned: if your dog digs out your new little plum tree and chews it down to a one-foot stick, plant that stick. It could grow into an oddly shaped tree and provide you with a few plums in about four years.

January is the time for my favorite winter gardening activity: choosing and ordering seeds, or making lists of seeds to buy locally. I spend hours going through my big box of saved seeds and curl up on the couch after dinner with my laptop to scroll through gardening websites. I read descriptions of heirloom varieties to my kids, and nag (their teenager-y word for “encourage”) them to help me choose varieties they would like to plant. Selecting seeds can be a wonderful family activity that promotes appreciation for the outdoors and stewardship of the earth. Lessons learned: Giving vegetables wonderful names does not appear to help children develop a taste for them. “It's still a BEET, Mom, and beets are gross.”

You can start seeds inside beginning in mid-January to get a jump start on your

spring garden. Though I mostly focus on vegetables, I have started various flowering plants to move into the garden in February and March because it makes it easier for me to determine spacing and avoid seeding over existing plants that have not emerged.

Start your eggplants, peppers and tomatoes inside, as these do not do well directly seeded into the garden. Also, basil freezes easily, so planting seeds inside is a good strategy for pesto lovers. Sunshine Garden's annual Spring Plant Sale—a great community event worthy of an article in a subsequent newsletter (say, in the spring?)—offers all of these plants as well. Really, you could skip seed-starting in winter and just ogle the catalogs while enjoying a hot cup of tea. Personally, seeing the tiny seedlings emerge from the soil excites me and makes me happy every single time I witness it, and I have never met a kid who didn't love that part of growing something.

Vegetable gardeners will appreciate Austin Organic Gardeners' online planting calendar, <http://www.main.org/aog/plantcal.htm>, which includes live links for each vegetable listed so that you can reference recommended varieties and companion plants. For example, Mary Washington asparagus crowns should be planted between December and January near where you will plant your tomatoes, basil and parsley. By the way, you can start planting the parsley and other herbs (except the basil) outside in February.

I am not going to cover winter lawn care because I don't care about lawns, and I will cover pruning only by saying that you should do it. The City of Austin / Agrilife Extension “Grow Green” Guide for Native and Adapted Landscape Plants provides pruning information for the most common landscape plants, and the University of Georgia published a pruning guide (1999) that is helpful as a “how to” manual. I would recommend looking online for advice specific to each of your fruit trees. North Carolina State University published a guide that covers many varieties, but you can easily find resources specific to Texas fruit trees online.

Happy gardening! ❖

Gullett Good News!

Debbie Trominski

Gullett is a school like no other place, and it's a great place where our neighborhood children are learning and growing. This semester was especially busy with school-wide evening events such as Literacy Night and Math Night. Each grade enjoyed field trips in the beautiful fall weather, including the highly anticipated "outdoor school" that is an away-from-home rite of passage for the fifth grade. And if that isn't enough, each grade also put on stellar musical performances.

The Grounds Group and the school community also enjoyed the satisfaction of completing the 6-year-long project of improving the outdoor courtyard of the Kindergarten / Life Skills ramp. The official ribbon cutting to celebrate the conclusion of the collaborative effort took place in November. The ramp is now even more beautiful than ever with limestone boulders set up as an outdoor classroom, a koi pond, an aviary, and a butterfly garden. It's truly a little slice of heaven

to enhance the learning experience of our beloved Geckos.

The third, fourth, and fifth graders are also busy working on their science fair projects over the holiday break. The science fair is at the end of January, but our scientific Geckos have been busy formulating, hypothesizing and experimenting since November! The breakthroughs and discoveries will be unveiled at Science Night on January 29 in the school's gymnasium.

The BookSpring Read-A-Thon kicks off on January 26 and runs through February 6. Allandalers, get ready to support your Geckos as they work to read their way to what is hoped to be the sixth victory Gullett has achieved in fundraising. BookSpring raises money to provide books for children and families who don't have books of their own. Gullett, through the leadership of librarian Kay Gooch, has been deeply involved in this effort for many years. In fact, Gullett has been a top fundraiser in the district over the past

6 years and has been *the top* fundraiser for 5 of those years. There are some other elementary schools that nip at our heels, so your support is both greatly needed and appreciated as the kids work hard to keep this top honor.

The Geckos just wrapped up their fall semester and are already enjoying their winter holiday break. Happy Holidays, Geckos, and rest up since it's going to be a great spring!

Upcoming Events:

December 19 through January 4 –

Winter Holiday Break

January 5 – Classes resume

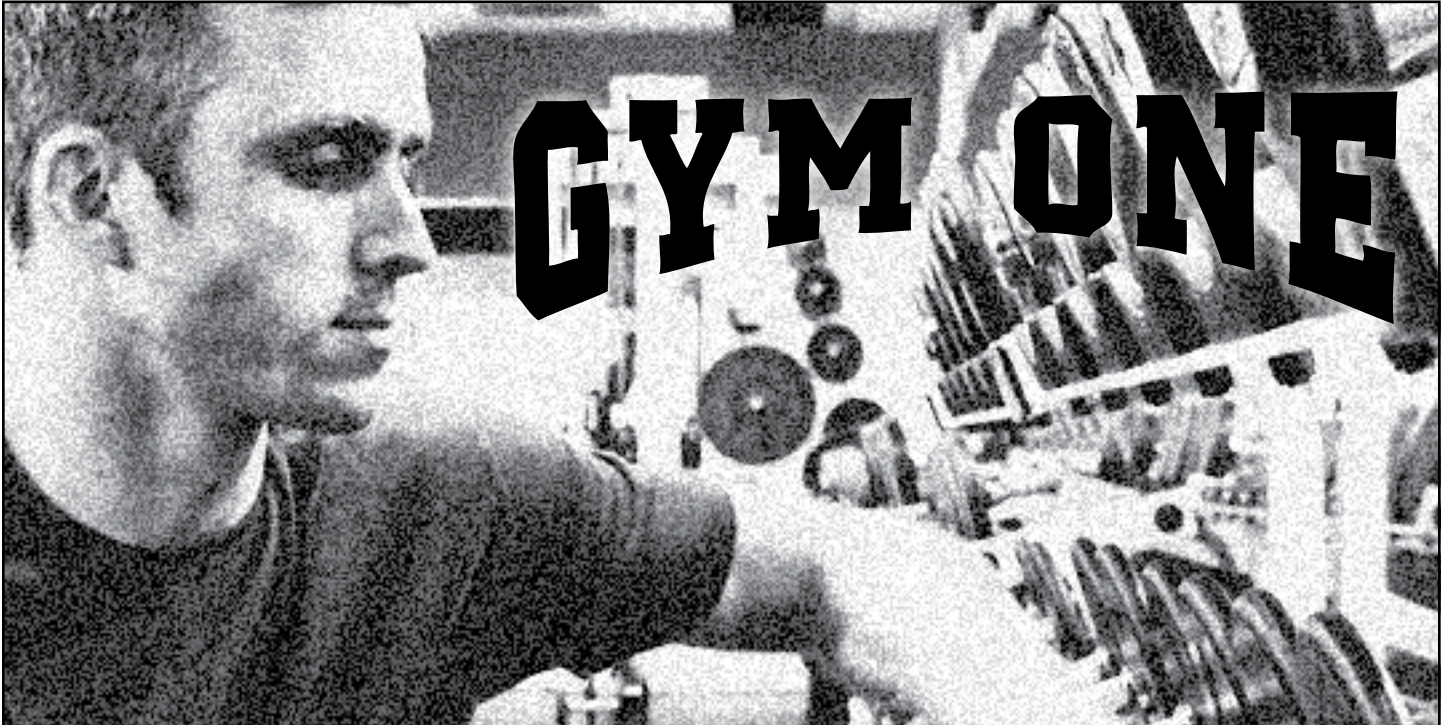
January 19 – MLK Day, no class

January 26 - February 6 – BookSpring
Read-A-Thon

January 29 – Science Night

February 7 – Movie Day at Alamo Draft-
house Village, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

February 16 – Presidents Day, no class ❖



Our locally owned fitness facility offers a wide selection of equipment for all your gym needs. Our Pricing is Simple.
We have No Gimmicks & No Contracts.

3300 West Anderson Lane, Suite 301 | 512-459-6165 | email: info@gym-one.com | www.gym-one.com



BUTLER & ASSOCIATES PSYCHOTHERAPY, PLLC



KASEY BUTLER, LCSW
 Licensed Clinical Social Worker
 4131 Spicewood Springs Rd., Ste. N3
 512.947.2668 | www.kaseybutler.com

SPECIALIZING IN CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND FAMILY THERAPY

All About Lamar!

Gina Ross


The Lamar Community would like to thank the neighborhood for the success of Lamar Fest. A great time was had by all! The Lamar PTA would especially like to thank Azul Tequila, CrossFit Center, Austin Associated General Contractors, Central Insurance Agency, Northwest Civic Association, and Dr. Stephen Sherwood, DDS, for their support and sponsorship during the event. If you missed the fun, we hope you will join us next year!

Fine Arts students have been enjoying a fast paced semester at Lamar this year. In November, Theater students traveled to the Texas Renaissance Festival to perform their one act play, Macbeth. Advanced dance students traveled to Dallas to participate in the Pulse on Tour Dance Convention. The Lamar Jazz Factory celebrated the holidays with a holiday dinner and performance at Covenant New Fellowship Hall. The orchestra performed a winter concert in the cafeteria and dance students delighted guests with their winter recital. The community is always welcome at campus events. Come see what these talented kids are doing.

Staff and students at Lamar Middle School have working hard to make our campus more environmentally sustainable. Lamar has a diverse Edible Garden full of vegetables, herbs and native plants. The garden is maintained by the Green Teens Club, science elective classes, and teacher and community volunteers. Students in the Green Teens Club harvest vegetables and herbs to take home and cook with their families, and Culinary Arts classes take advantage of the fresh kitchen herbs when they are in season. Our urban garden attracts native birds and insects and traps and filters rainwater while providing fresh, organic food to the Lamar community.

Lamar is also home to six chickens. Two of our hens are laying delicious, organic eggs in our unique A-frame chicken coop. Other campus sustainability projects on campus include an initiative to compost food scraps in the school cafeteria, a three-tier compost system for garden waste, and a rainwater collection tank that is used to water the Edible Garden.

There is always a lot happening at Lamar! As always, faculty, parents and students appreciate your caution when driving near our campus. Keep your eye out for our students walking to and from school in the neighborhood and remember, there are no U-turns or cell phones in a school zone. ❖



**Allandale
 Veterinary
 Clinic**


PLEAS NAVIDAD

Between December 15, 2014 and
 February 15, 2015, bring your pet in for
 \$10 off the veterinary exam.

6800 Burnet Rd., Ste. 1 • (512) 454-6719

- MUST PRESENT COUPON -


**BETTER TECHNOLOGY. BETTER SERVICE.
 BETTER HEARING FOR LIFE.**



**Free
 LIFETIME**
 care and batteries
 with purchase
 of hearing aid
 technology

Risk-Free
 in home trial
 for 30 days

Central Texas Hearing Center accepts most major insurances



Dr. Amanda Harris Langham
 Audiologist, CCC-A
512-879-3993
 3202 W. Anderson Ln. Ste. 208
 Austin, TX 78757
 amanda@mycthc.com
 www.centraltexashearingcenter.com

- Diagnostic Audiologic Evaluations
- Hearing Evaluations
- Hearing Aid Evaluation
- Hearing Aid Fitting
- Hearing Aid Repair
- Musician Hearing Protection
- Tinnitus Treatment
- Industrial Hearing Testing

Starkey unitron oticon ReSound SIEMENS PHONAK WIDEX

It's Knight Time – McCallum Updates

Jill Whiteside Schavrdra

McCallum High School and Fine Arts Academy Important Dates:

Student Holidays

December 19 - January 2 - Winter Break (school resumes January 5)

January 19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - Student/Staff Holiday

February 16 - Student Holiday/Staff Development

Late Start Dates

On the following dates, teachers will be participating in professional development sessions from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Classes will begin at 10:15 a.m. on January 15, January 29, and February 12.

McCallum general calendar link: http://www.austinschools.org/campus/mccallum/important_dates.htm

McCallum Sports Schedule link: [http://www.maxpreps.com/high-schools/mccallum-knights-\(austin,tx\)/home.htm](http://www.maxpreps.com/high-schools/mccallum-knights-(austin,tx)/home.htm)

Jan 5 – 16, 2015 Fine Arts Academy Application Submission Window: McCallum Fine Arts Academy will accept applications via mail or hand delivery from Monday, January 5 through Friday, January 16. All application materials from the student/parent must be received by Friday, January 16. This includes the two-page application (signed), essay and short answer responses, and grade reports. (Teacher recommendation forms are to be sent directly to the Fine Arts Academy from the recommending teacher.)

Friday, January 16, 2015, Fine Arts Academy Application Submission DEADLINE

January 16, 2015, 7:00– 9:00 p.m., Jonathan Scales Knights of Steel Concert, MAC Theater

January 22, 2015, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., AISD Performing Arts Center Grand Opening, Mueller Central, Mueller Blvd and 51st Street

January 28, 2015, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Teachers in Tiaras Performance, Fine Arts Building Theater

January 31, 2015, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m., Mardi Grazie Concert-McCallum Cafeteria and the Fine Arts Building Theater

February 2, 2015, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., Percussion Recording Concert, Fine Arts Building Theater

February 19, 20 and 21, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., and February 22 at 2:00 p.m., Ghost the Musical Performance, Fine Arts Building Theater

February 27, Fine Arts Academy Notification Date. All students applying to the Fine Arts Academy will be mailed a decision letter on Friday, February 27, 2015. Students will be notified if they are accepted, wait-listed, or declined.

Fine Arts Calendar Link: http://www.austinschools.org/campus/mccallum/fine_arts/calendar.htm. ❖

Up to date on your ANA dues?
See form on back page



RELAXED. REFINED. GENEROUS.

- Personalized Service
- All Natural Products Available
(Davines, Oribe & Mason Pearson brushes)
- Expertly Trained Stylists
- Espresso & Wine Bar
- Scalp Massages
- Charging Stations
- Flexible Hours
- Giving Back to our Community
with Each Haircut

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

Opening in January. Give the gift of personal style today!

*DO YOU
wink or ride?*

We have a special treat for you.

512-843-2401

6009 Burnet Road | Corner of Koenig & Burnet Road



Award Winning Architecture,
Construction, & Outdoor Spaces

www.CGSDb.com • 512.444.1580

Neighborhood Watch

Laura DiCarlo, Allandale Safety Chair,
lhdicarlo@yahoo.com, 512-529-1701

The Safety Committee has been busy over the last two months:

- dealing with graffiti
- learning and disseminating facts about two attempted robberies by threat
- attending the October 14 Commander's Forum
- planning a Take 10 CPR training
- meeting with concerned home owners and residents near Little Woodrows, and
- working on safety concerns on Shoal Creek Blvd at Treadwell (see front page article)

I have also learned that we will be losing one of our APD district representatives, (DR) Officer Judson Chapman, due to a reorganization at APD. We will still coordinate with him, however, as his territory will cover the east side of Burnet Road which, while technically Brentwood, Crestview, and Rosedale, still greatly affects our neighborhood. Officer Joshua Metteauer, who has been our DR south of Hancock, will have all of Allandale. Officer Metteauer's territory has grown while other areas have shrunk in response to statistics APD uses to determine need. APD is data driven, and less calls in our area mean our coverage is get-

ting more sparse. While I am glad we have a low crime rate, I know there are many occurrences that go unreported and this does our neighborhood a disservice. More about this later in my article.

Graffiti is an On-going Problem

The graffiti issue involves the AT&T boxes on the corner of Strass and Fiset as well as concrete walls on Hancock between Shoal Creek Boulevard and Strass. Taggers have targeted these areas multiple times in the last two months. There have also been tags at the pony field and in a drainage ditch on White Horse Trail recently, but the ones in the Shoalmont area are recurring at a much higher frequency. Officer Metteauer has tried to help us get permission to put a camera on the utility pole next to the AT&T boxes, but we were unable to gain the OK from the city. Pat Green and Kata Carbone regularly clean up graffiti in the southern portion of Allandale (between Hancock/45th and MoPac/Burnet). Kata asked AT&T to consider using graffiti resistant material on their cabinets at this location as they have done elsewhere in the U.S. Please report all graffiti/tagging and let me know if you have information about who may be tagging the boxes or creating graffiti anywhere else.

Attempted Robbery By Threat

As I explained on the listserve, the two "robberies by threat" that occurred Mon-

day, October 6 at 7320 Burnet Road (site of Genie car wash) and 6817 Daugherty turned out to be just attempts and no harm was done. According to Detective Smith, the same perpetrator attempted car thefts at both locations but was not successful in either place and fled the area. There was no weapon involved and there are no suspects. Detective Smith was fairly certain the perpetrator is not going to return to the neighborhood.

Recent Commander's Forum at McCallum High School

About 20 residents and 15 representatives from APD attended the 10/14/14 Commander's Forum. Among other presentations Commander Pat South spoke about vehicular enforcement and reported that DWIs, fatalities, and accidents in general are down thanks to regional efforts like the "arrive alive" campaign. Commander Mahoney reported Region I stats and spoke of initiatives such as use of bait vehicles to reduce BOVs.

CPR Class will be offered on February 28, 2015. This will be our third annual Take 10 CPR class at Northwest Recreation Center, and this time it will be brought to you by ANA in conjunction with the Gullett PTA Wellness Committee. Gullett PTA Wellness Chair Shana Logue and I are both getting trained by the Office of the Medical Director in the City of Austin Travis County EMS System so that we may run the class ourselves.

Little Woodrow's Brings Challenges

I met recently with residents, business owners, and our DRs regarding safety and parking concerns. The focus of the meeting was to learn from Officers Chapman and Metteauer what APD can and can't do, and how residents and business own-



7711 Burnet Road
Austin, TX 78757
512-453-3312

Stop by to enjoy our Everyday Values and meet our new manager Ashley Roberts!
Now offering Holiday Catering Specials.

Complimentary Portfolio Review



Fernando Kempff, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

2137 B West Anderson Lane
Austin, TX 78757
512-467-0007

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

ers should best handle various situations. The goal was not to focus just on Little Woodrow's but rather to understand the bigger picture and to deal with all issues, some of which have existed for a long time but have increased significantly since Little Woodrow's opened. The DRs are going to relay to their sergeants that business owners and residents are asking police officers not to simply ask bar managers to announce that patrons need to move their cars. The meeting attendees are asking for better enforcement.

Allandale resident Anne Young is working with the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) on safety as well as ticketing/towing parking violators. A traffic light at the Houston Street intersection (among other possible safety measures) is in the works, but the installation schedule is unknown. During the meeting it was reported that people avoid calling the police because they feel APD will not respond adequately or they don't want to bother them. The DRs stressed we should call 911 whenever we need an officer and 311 to make a police report for incidents that do not require immediate attention. Even if we don't get the immediate results, it is critical to make a

police report so that APD can see needs and can allot resources accordingly in the future (if we don't document crime in Allandale our DR region will keep growing because APD won't know we have any issues).

Harden the Target

Last year in my December Neighborhood Watch article I reported results of the FBI Crime Report that indicated Austin is the second safest large city in the US (just behind San Jose, California); but in terms of property crime, Austin rates among the lowest, 26 out of 30. In an interview aired on KUT in October 2013 Police Chief Art Acavado noted that the high property crime is in part due to the fact that people don't lock their doors and do leave valuables showing in their cars. Acavado said people think they still live in a small town and have a laid back attitude towards securing their belongings. I reported that a few years back APD conducted an initiative where they left notes on cars that had valuables showing inside them, in order to educate people about

what thieves look for.

We tried something similar last December – a few block captains and our APD DRs

spent an evening looking into car windows with flash lights and when we saw valuables showing through a vehicle's windows we visited the house at which the car was parked. If no one was home we left a note. The idea was to remind people that especially in December when many parcels are




Continued on page 20

ALLANDALE IS WIRED

Current Allandale Listserve Membership: 1600+
(see www.allandaleneighbor.com on how to join)

Average number of daily visits to web site: 90+



Lee Allbright
Realtor

(512)413-9520
lee@leeallbright.com

Over 200 Homes
Sold and Listed
in Allandale since 1984

COLDWELL BANKER
UNITED, REALTORS®

Purchase a \$50 gift card & receive
a \$10 card for yourself.

**Give the Gift
of
GREAT FOOD!**



Available for purchase at each of our restaurants.

Neighborhood Watch

Continued from page 19

purchased and transported, it is critical to harden the target. In addition to not leaving valuables showing in vehicles, you can decrease the likelihood of property crime by doing as many of the following as possible:

- close and lock all house, garage, and car doors and windows
- hide all valuables
- turn on your alarm if you have one
- thank your dog for his or her protection
- install outside motion lights and leave a light on inside when not home
- keep an inventory of all belongings (including serial numbers) and etch items that don't have serial numbers with a distinct mark
- replace your exterior doors with solid core doors that are 1 3/4 inches thick and secured with deadbolts
- replace old screws in strike plates with three-inch screws
- call 911 if you see anyone acting suspiciously (looking into car windows, walking up people's driveways, etc.)
- when shopping, secure parcels in your trunk before going to your next location so would-be thieves can't see them
- avoid putting boxes from large ticket items out in full view for recycling
- close curtains/shades to block the view of large screen TVs or other electronics from outside your house
- tell a trusted neighbor who can watch your house when you go out of town
- stop paper delivery when away and ask a neighbor to clean up any stray handbills
- contact our APD DR if you would like a safety audit done, Officer Josh Metteauer (Joshua.Metteauer@austintexas.gov or 512-974-8124)

Stats

Since the October safety article there have been nine burglary of vehicles (BOVs) and two burglary of residences (BORs). The BOVs occurred on Burnet, Whiteway, Westfield, Ardath, Greenlawn,

Montview, Daugherty, and an attempted on Cavileer. Two of those occurred at NW Park and one was at the apartment complex at 5350 Burnet, so there have been only six BOVs at single family homes since the beginning of October. This isn't too bad considering we have over 4000 households in Allandale!

The two BORs happened on Pegasus and Lawnmont, and there was also an attempted one on Pegasus that was discussed on the listserv. There have also been thefts, DWIs, and more, the details of which can be found at krimelabb.com or by contacting me.

Block Captain Training in January

I will be doing a block captain training in January but have not yet set the date and time. Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or want to become a block captain, patrol, or help with graffiti removal. ❖

**Up to date on your ANA dues?
See form on back page**

what makes Sew Much More

AUSTIN'S FAVORITE SEWING STORE?

EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL SERVICE

Our business is sewing – and only sewing!

WE'RE COMMITTED TO A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

We give unlimited free 1-on-1 training sessions with your new machine

FABRICS, NOTIONS, SOFTWARE

We carry everything your creative projects might need

BERNINA

made to create

baby lock

FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING



(512) 452-3166

Mon. – Fri. 10AM – 6PM, Sat. 10AM – 5PM

3010 West Anderson Ln @ Shoal Creek



Sew Much More

✉ Sign up for insider information and special offers at www.sewaustin.com

💻 www.sewaustin.com

📘 Love sewing? Like us on Facebook!

📦 New fabrics arrive daily!

Déjà Vu

Kata Carbone

The Allandale Neighborhood Association was formed in 1973 but it wasn't until 1985 that the first newsletter was distributed. From the very first issue, it is clear that neighborhood preservation has been the prime motive for activism in Allandale. Consider this blast from the past from the front page of ANA's first newsletter, dated November 1985:

Road Meeting Draws Over 500

Concerned Austinites filled the St. Louis Catholic Church on Nov. 18 to hear a panel present differing views on the soon to be proposed Austin roadway plan. Their mood was serious but cordial as this cross section of Austin citizens waited to hear what the Sirrine consulting firm would tell the Austin Transportation Study Commission to do to their neighborhoods. ... Former Austin Councilperson and chair of Save Austin's Neighborhoods & Environment, Larry Deuser gave a rousing and decidedly pro-neighborhood speech. Said Deuser,

"When we spend money for roads, it should be in harmony with environment and neighborhoods. We should upgrade 183, Ben White and Parmer Lane before making Lavaca, Riverside, Airport, MLK, and parts of 45th into 8 lanes and Barton Springs, 38th, and Duval into 6 lanes and Koenig/2222 into 6-8 lanes."

An article on page 12 sounds a lot like what we object to about the proposed Austin Oaks PUD:

Town Center Project

Don Bosse of H&G Properties presented a project proposal to the Steering Committee on Nov. 11. The project is to be located on approximately 36 acres near the northwest corner of Burnet and 183. The property is made up of several parcels, the largest of which is the old Glastron Boat Manufacturing site. Several other parcels are the Silver Dollar and the Lumberyard sites along Burnet Rd. The project proposes 2.8 million square feet of combined office, retail and hotel space... There would be 14

buildings with associated parking structures varying in height from 10 to 14 stories. Our two main concerns are with the overall density of this project and the generated traffic... This development could set a trend for higher density along MoPac, US 183 and Burnet Road and flood us with more traffic. An additional 29,000 car trips per day would be generated...

Lastly, I wonder whatever happened to the "barwash" concept. Robb Walsh (possibly the same foodie founder of Hot Sauce Festival fame?) placed a half-page advertisement for his combination bar/deli/laundromat/yuppie-singles-spot that was located in the Northwend Center on North Lamar. The advertisement offered:

FREE COFFEE & FREE SOAP
50¢ WASHERS & DRYERS

with quotes from Texas Monthly, Newsweek, and the Washington Post. A search on "barwash" turned up articles about Walsh's establishment from the Chicago Tribune to Fortune Magazine to the New Straits Times in Singapore, of all places. ❖



WOW!

WOMEN-ONLY WORKOUTS!



HUMAN MACHINE

ATHLETIC CLUB

NORTH AUSTIN

7739 NORTHCROSS DRIVE, SUITE 111

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: HMAATHLETIC.COM/WOMEN-ONLY-WORKOUTS

1% Listings!

I'll sell your home for 1%. Does not include commission to buyer's agent.

FULL-SERVICE REALTOR®

Listings appear in the MLS and many websites - ie Zillow, Trulia, Realtor.com

How nearly *EVERYONE* finds their home

Expertise in Buying, Selling, Negotiating and Contracts

AVENUEHREALESTATE.COM

Steve Hutchinson, MPA, Realtor
Casa Grande Realty
512/704-2888
shutchtx@yahoo.com

Why Pay 3%? **SAVE 2%!**

Free services for buyers

Shoal Creek Conservancy Works to Improve Allandale

Continued from front page

Foster Lane to Hancock Drive. As the home to many migratory birds, native plants, and aquatic life, Shoal Creek serves as an important wildlife corridor in central Austin. Expanding beyond Allandale, the creek flows for 11 miles in total, from north of 183 to Lady Bird Lake, and provides an oasis in the city's urban core.

Shoal Creek Conservancy

Shoal Creek Conservancy is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving Shoal Creek, both the waterway and its associated trail, for all Austinites, present and future. By restoring and protecting the creek, the Conservancy believes it can make Austin a more vibrant place to live, work and recreate. Focusing on four areas—trails, parks, water and history—the Conservancy aims to enhance and expand the Shoal Creek trail, improve water quality and reduce flood risk, enhance habitat and create vibrant green spaces, as well as to preserve and share the creek's unique history.

The History of Allandale and Shoal Creek

In the past, Allandale has had a tumultuous relationship with Shoal Creek. Many residents remember the disastrous Memorial Day Flood of 1981, which took 13 lives and caused over \$35 million in damage. At the time of the flood, water rushed through the creek at over six million gallons per minute (up from the typical flow of 90 gallons per minute), destroying everything in its path and raising awareness of the desperate need for flood mitigation.

Since the flood, the City of Austin has taken many steps to ensure the safety of those living along the creek, such as purchasing 450 homes within the floodplain and building flood walls and retention ponds in the area, including the familiar Northwest District Park and Great Northern Dam. While the flood risk is greatly reduced, flooding remains a concern in some areas as does erosion of the creek bank. And, despite this work, the flood risk from Shoal Creek in downtown is greater than it was in 1981 due to urbanization in upper areas of the creek. In order to ensure the safety of all Austin residents, the Conservancy is partnering with the City to create and implement a Watershed Action Plan that identifies solutions to these flood concerns.

A Cause for Concern: Water Quality

Flooding and erosion are often highly visible challenges, but what issues are going unseen? We frequently pay attention to what water does, but what about the water itself? Shoal Creek has significant water quality problems. In fact, one of the four dirtiest waterways in Austin, the Spicewood Tributary, drains directly into Shoal Creek just north of Allandale. High concentrations of bacteria found in pet and human waste may indicate health risks for



Prime seating at Northwest District Park

people who swim or wade in these waters, according to the State. The Conservancy is partnering with the City to implement solutions at this hot spot and to ensure that the entire length of the creek is clean, fishable and swimmable. As a resident of the Shoal Creek watershed, you can help by picking up after your pet and thinking twice before using pesticides on your lawn.

The Conservancy's Vision for the Future

Over the long term, there are many exciting plans in the works for Shoal Creek and the Allandale community. Along with reducing flood risk and improving water quality, the Conservancy's vision is to extend the Shoal Creek Greenway northward to the Pickle Research Center and The Domain through a combination of both on-street and off-street trails. Currently, the trail runs from Lady Bird Lake to approximately 38th Street. The Conservancy's vision is a continuous trail from downtown to north of 183, serving as a safe, well-maintained transportation and recreational corridor in the heart of our city.

How to get involved

As residents along or near the creek, the Shoal Creek Conservancy invites you to get involved. The Conservancy is a community of trail and park users, businesses and residents within the watershed as well as nonprofit partner organizations. Working together, the Conservancy provides a voice for Shoal Creek, mobilizes volunteers, partners with the City, and hosts public events along the trail. As a Shoal Creek resident, you can learn more about the Conservancy and join the growing community by becoming a member at www.shoalcreekconservancy.org. You can also contact the Conservancy at info@shoalcreekconservancy.org or 512-474-2412 with any questions. Additionally, if you see anything negatively impacting the creek, please call 3-1-1 and help the Conservancy be the eyes and ears along this amazing Austin treasure. ❖

Concern About the Crosswalk at Shoal Creek Boulevard and Treadwell

Continued from front page

would be simple to get a flashing light installed as it is dangerous—in both directions—with the curve in Shoal Creek Boulevard on either side of the crosswalk. Cars drive quickly and it is especially a concern when kids are walking to and from school. However, the city said that only four-lane roads are eligible for traffic beacons and instead installed two small unsatisfactory “yield here to pedestrians” signs.

Parent Nina Rao has also been in contact with the city and received an email from Renee Orr that a camera was temporarily installed to obtain data about the intersection, and that the person who will be analyzing the data is area traffic engineer Dipti Borkar-Desai. Rao will be following up with Borker-Desai.

The safety committee brought the issue to the ANA Executive Committee (EC)

last month and the EC suggested the possibility of:

- moving the crosswalk to a safer location
- a raised crosswalk
- flashing yellow lights, and
- looking at the analysis of the data from the city's camera.

Neighbor Liz Haltom, who has a child who crosses Shoal Creek Boulevard at Treadwell twice daily on his scooter, has also been in touch with the city, and attended the ANA EC meeting. Haltom pointed out that traffic calming curb intrusions and yellow caution posts on the stretch of Rockwood between Steck and Anderson seem to be effective and should be investigated. A stop sign would not make sense given the fact that motorists might not see it, creating a false sense of security for

pedestrians.

Safety at the intersection is an issue for all, not just children walking to and from school. It is dangerous for runners and pedestrians of all ages. A resident in his 60s who runs there regularly noted he has concerns about safety at that intersection as well. It is dangerous for drivers too, coming in both directions after navigating turns and curves and potentially missing bikers, joggers or walkers.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact ANA Safety Chair Laura DiCarlo at 512-323-7629 or lhdicarlo@yahoo.com. ♦


Jill Brumley®

Realtor
Cell 512.914.7774

jill@thecaldwellcompany.com
jillbrumleyrealtor.com

STEVE'S PLUMBING REPAIR

sewer & drain service • fiber optic drain line inspections
• free estimates • satisfaction guaranteed

Steve Brougher
Master License M-39722

276-7476

2605 Buell Avenue



**Allandale Neighborhood Association
New or Renewal Membership
Celebrate Allandale: Love It. Protect It.**

All residents within Allandale's boundaries are welcome to join the Allandale Neighborhood Association. Annual dues are \$15 per household or \$7 (over age 55 household). Membership runs January-December. Dues may be paid in advance for multiple years.

Name _____

Address & Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Membership rates: ☐ \$15 dues per household
☐ \$7 dues per age 55+ household
(OPTIONAL: ☐ I'm including an additional contribution of \$_____ to ANA's legal fund)

Please make checks payable to:

ANA ■ PO Box 10886 ■ Austin, TX 78766-1886

Or join online via PayPal at: www.allandaleneighbor.com

I am willing to serve on the following committees:

- | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning and Planning | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

Allandale Neighborhood Association
PO Box 10886
Austin, TX 78766-1886

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

*****ECRWSS****

Postal Customer
Austin, TX

Painting Allandale one neighbor at a time...

- * Free Estimates
- * Reasonable Rates
- * Professional Results

Phone: 791-8114

Bright Spot
Painting / Remodeling